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News Release

ICE ARRESTS CONVICTED PREDATOR

Trinidadian citizen is now facing deportation

TAMPA—A 21-year old who pleaded guilty to one count of lewd and lascivious battery on a minor was arrested here May 23rd by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) special agents and detention and removal officers.

Sherwin Christopher Browne, a citizen of Trinidad pleaded guilty in a Hillsborough County superior court on Oct. 18, 2004 and was sentenced to five years probation.

"This arrest reflects the hard work and dedication of the men and women of ICE that work daily to ensure that our children are protected," said Michael Rozos, field office director for detention and removal operations in Florida. "ICE will continue to identify, arrest and remove predators who pose a threat to the children of our communities," said Raymond M. Connolly, acting special agent-in-charge of ICE's Tampa office.

According to ICE investigative records, Browne is also being charged with overstaying his B-2 visa, which is an administrative violation of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).

Browne is in ICE custody at the Bradenton Detention Center pending the outcome of his immigration case.

This arrest is part of ICE's nationwide initiative known as Operation Predator. Operation Predator protects our children from sexual predators, including those who travel across continents to have sex with minors. Internet child pornographers and criminal alien sex offenders and child traffickers are also a priority for ICE. Since the initiative was launched in July of 2003, there have been more than 5,700 individuals arrested nationwide.

ICE encourages the reporting of suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. Investigators staff this hotline around the clock.

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Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or http://www.cybertipline.com.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.